

REMARKS

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the present application has been found in condition for allowance. In response to the Examiner's comments regarding required amendments, the Applicant has made the changes to the drawings and to the disclosure, as set out hereinabove. The Applicant also provides the following comments.

On page 8, lines 2 and 4, "14" has been replaced by 42 in order to correctly identify the correct items in Figure 4, as noted by the Examiner.

Also, in response to the Examiner's objection under 37 CFR 1.83(a), the Applicant has amended Figures 2, 3, 14 and 15 to show various features of the invention which have been disclosed in the disclosure, and which have also been claimed in the claims. These features include the linear actuator, the conveyor controller assembly, and the conveyor stop and/or clamp. Also, the Applicant has added new Figure 16, which is basically a modified version of Figure 2, in which the conveyor belt has been replaced by a series of rollers, as was described in the disclosure and the claims.

Page 5 has therefore been amended to provide a brief description of Figure 16. Also, page 9 has been amended (namely paragraphs 37 to 39 of record), in order to provide reference numbers to features which were previously described, but which are now shown in the drawings, and to provide a brief description of the invention embodiment now shown in Figure 16. In particular, paragraph 37 has been amended to provide a reference number for motor 43 which has been added to Figures 2 and 3. The motor 43 acts as a first and second conveyance actuator. Also, reference to incorrect reference numerals "42" for the rollers, have been replaced with a correct reference to numerals "44".

Paragraph 38 has been amended to provide a description of a pneumatically operated piston 45, which acts as a linear actuator, and which has been added to Figure 2.

Paragraph 39 has been amended, and Figure 16 has been added, to show and further describe an embodiment wherein the conveyor belt of Figure 2 has been replaced by a series of rollers.

Further, page 11 has been amended, as have Figures 14 and 15, in order to show clamp 103, which clamp can act as a conveyor stop member.

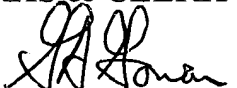
With these amendments, it is believed that the present application is now in compliance with 37 CFR 1.83(a), and that the application is now allowable. No new subject matter has been added as a result of these amendments since only previously described and claimed features have been added to the drawings. The corresponding changes to the disclosure have been made in order to more clearly understand the drawings.

It is further contended that all of the changes which have been made would be clearly understood by the skilled artisan on review of the specification as originally filed.

Accordingly, the issuance of a notice of allowance is now respectfully requested.

Also, the Applicant notes that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed on or about October 22, 2003. The Examiner is requested to confirm receipt of this Statement, and confirm that the contents of that document have been considered during the examination process.

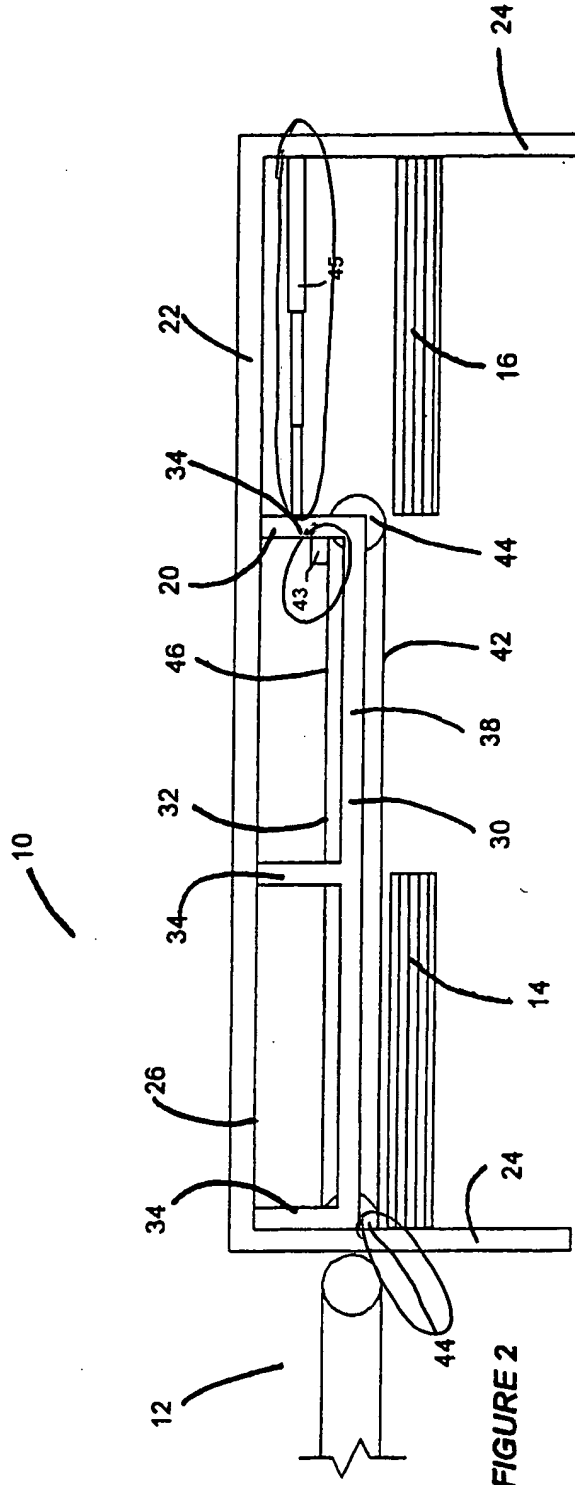
Respectfully submitted,
MARKS & CLERK



Per: Gerald A. Gowan
Registered Patent & Trade-Mark Agent
US Registration No. 37,041 / US Client No. 23477
email: ggowan@to.markclerk.com

Marks & Clerk (Toronto)
1075 North Service Road West
Suite # 203
Oakville, Ontario
CANADA L6M 2G2
T: 905-827-5000
F: 905-827-5087

GAG:tim
encls:



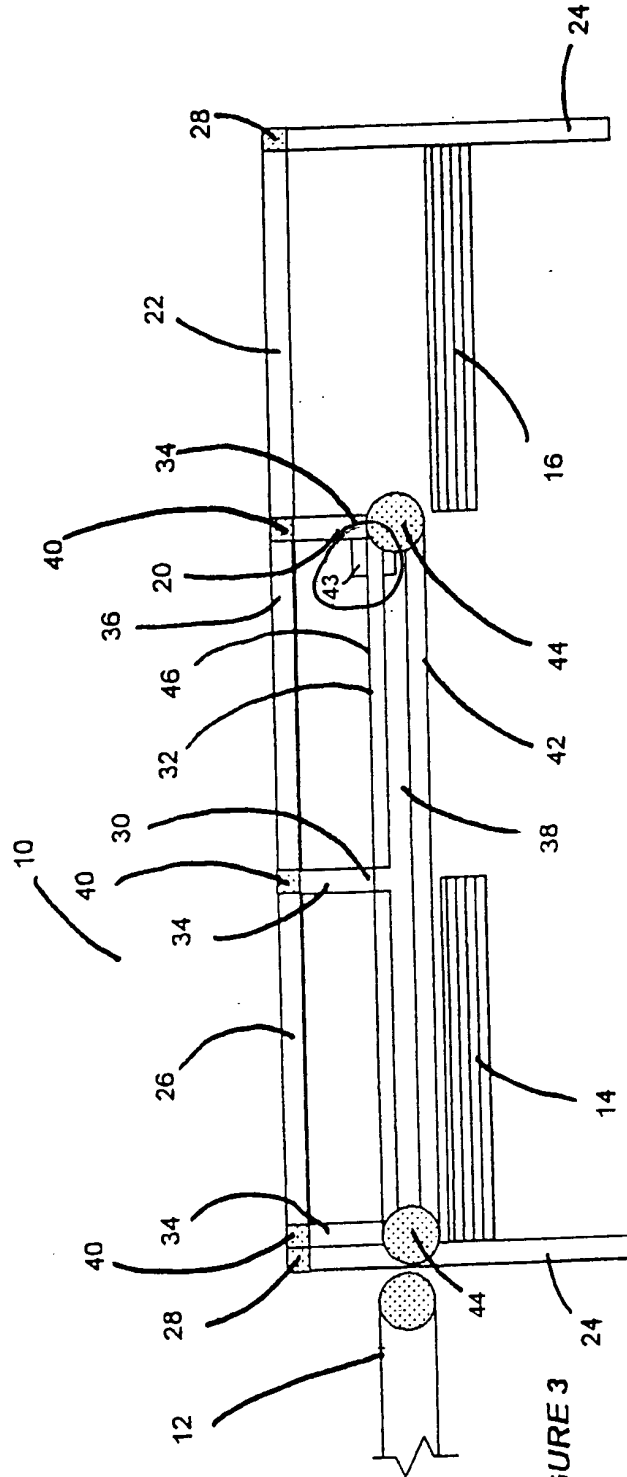


FIGURE 3

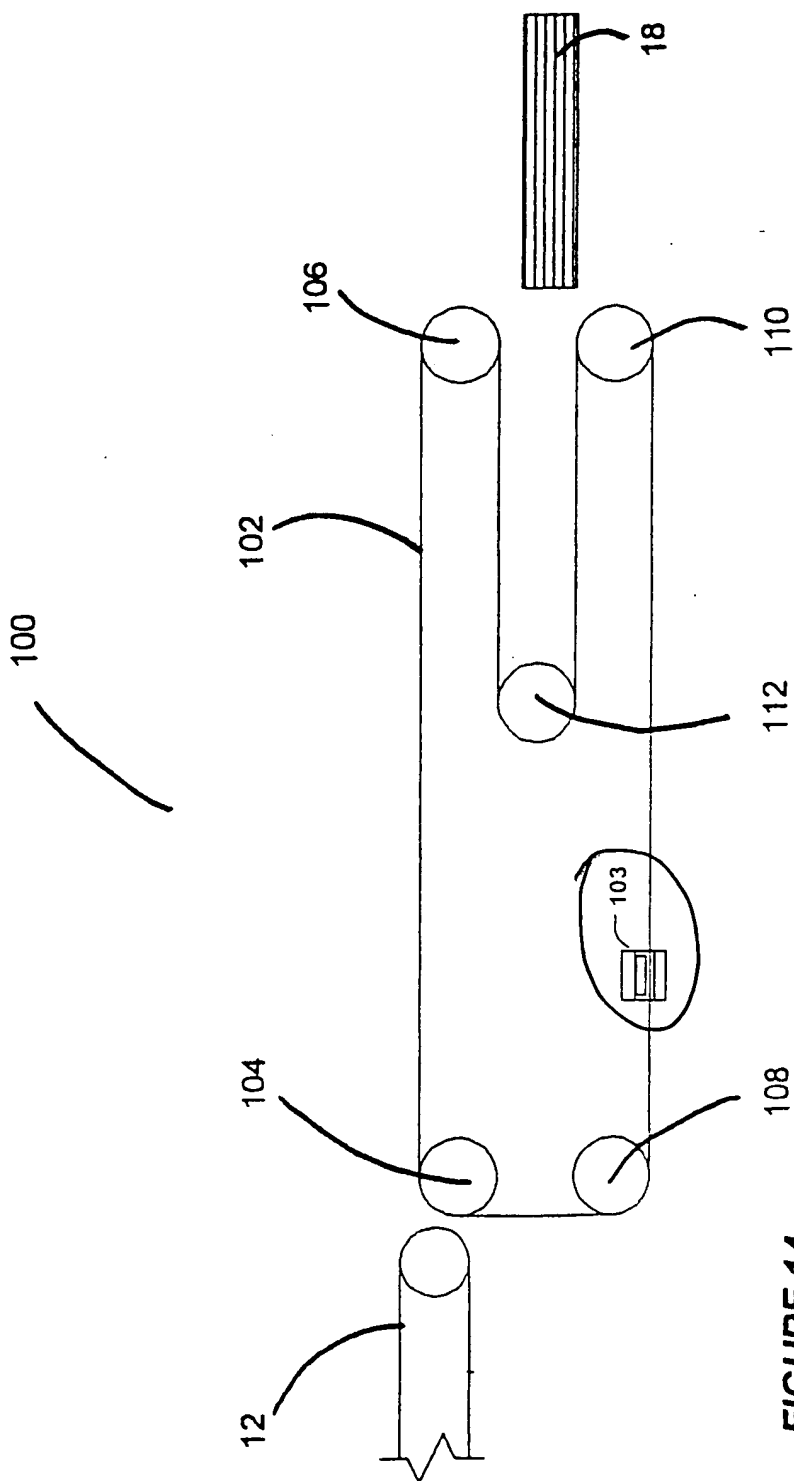


FIGURE 14

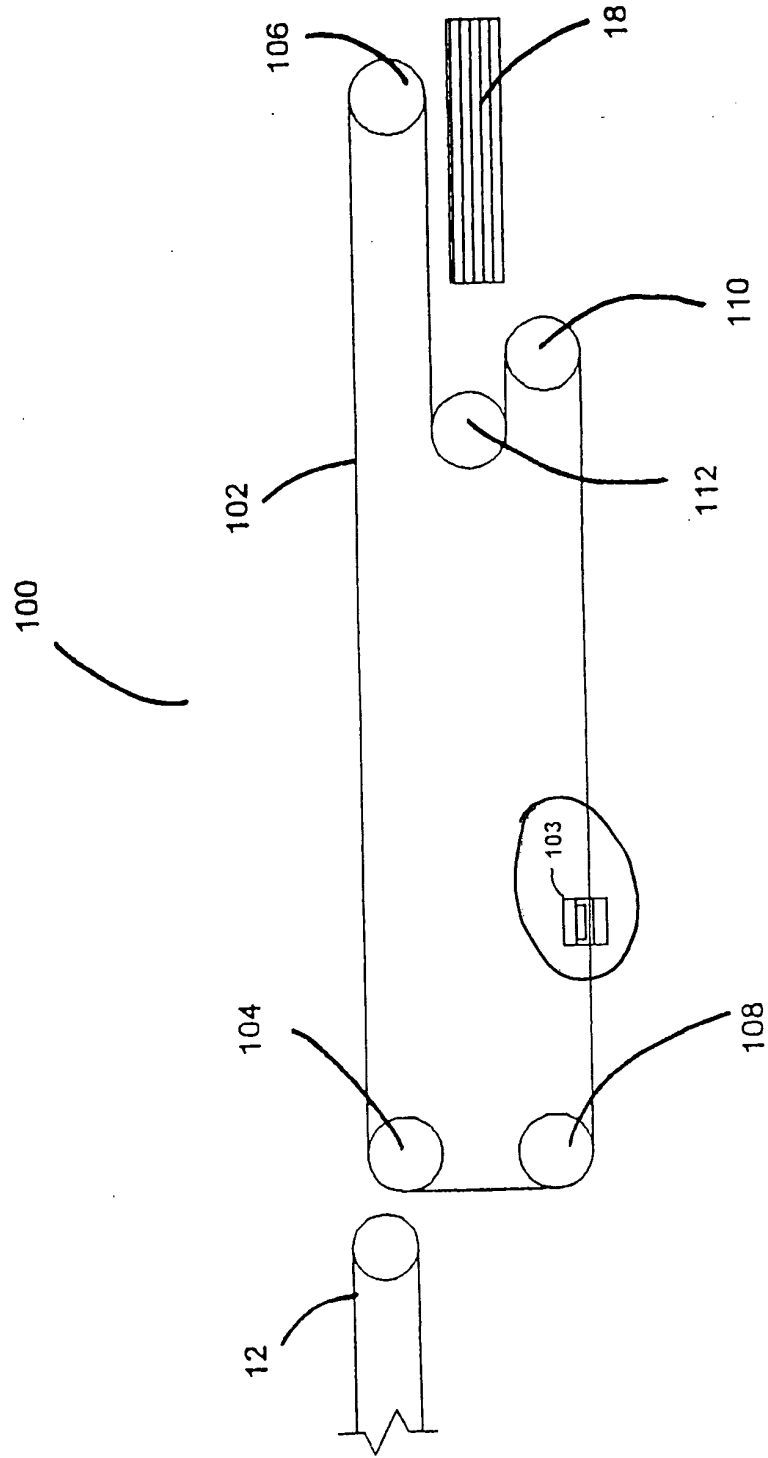


FIGURE 15

New

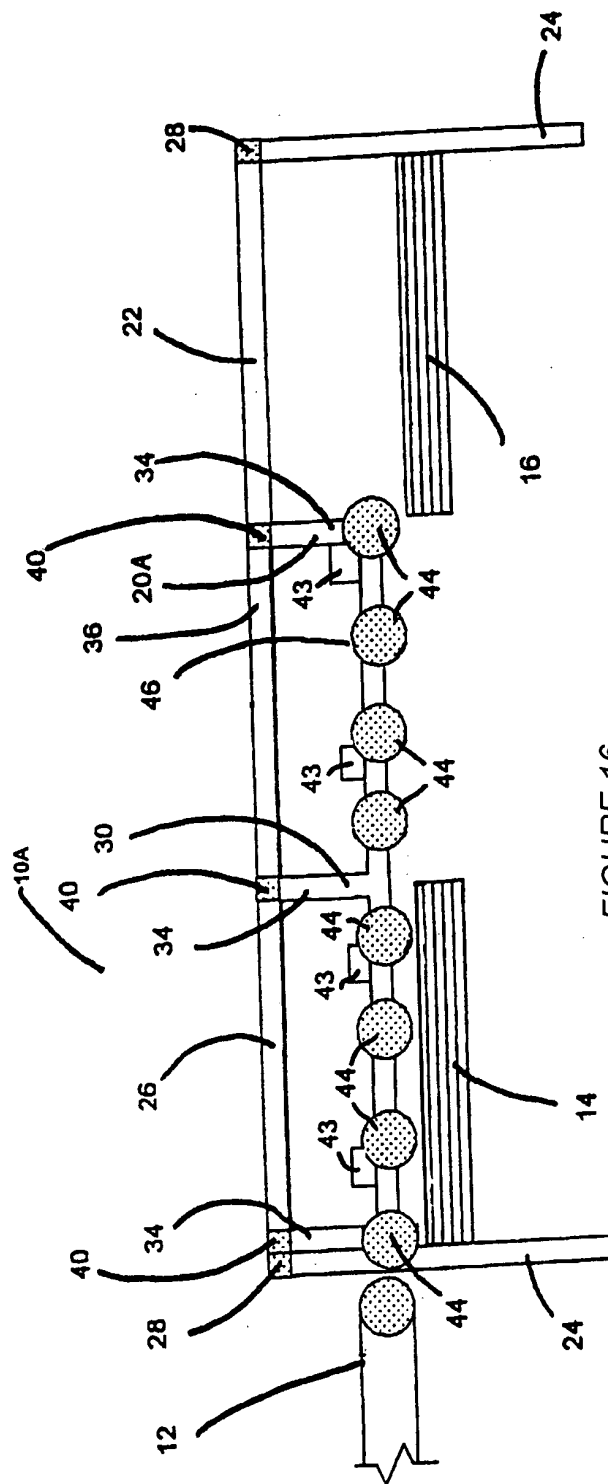


FIGURE 16